

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Matanuska-Susitna Borough****Project Title:**

Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Big Lake FSA No. 33 New Fire Fighting Equipment and Building Maintenance

State Funding Requested: \$ 30,000**House District: 15 - H**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Purchase of new equipment and maintenance of existing structures

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$30,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This would provide for the purchase of new emergency equipment to accommodate new needs and replace worn equipment as well as funding the maintenance of structures, facilities, and equipment. A growing population means equipment is used more and experiences accelerated wear and tear and that equipment failures become more problematic. This will help ensure that there are ready and capable emergency services available to residents and visitors.

Project Timeline:

FY09

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Big Lake FSA No. 33

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: John Duffy

Phone Number: 907-745-9689

Address: Mat-Su Borough 350 E. Dahlia

Palmer, AK 99645

e-mail: jduffy@matsugov.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Beth Schneider

From: Wes Hamrick [nstar@mtaonline.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 9:41 PM
To: Rep. Mark Neuman
Subject: Re: funding

**I talked with Mark today and he instructed me to send this letter, but for more information, this is what we are requesting it to be used for and why...Thanks
 Wes Hamrick**

I, Wes Hamrick,,being primary on the fire board for Big Lake, have the solemn duty of contacting our legislators in hopes of getting some assistance this year as in the past, We are very thankful for all the help we have gotten in the past, (Our truck should be here in March) and we are trying hard to catch up, with the fire departments of today.... I hope that if we convey our needs early enough, we might get considered for it. I know that this is a 90 day session and not much time for frills, but anything you could do thru Rep. Neumans office would be extremely helpful.

It would be extremely helpful if our legislative representatives could help District 2 by funding USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) gear and some additional fire, rescue and EMS equipment.

The Big Lake/Meadow Lakes Ambulance Service, The Meadow Lakes Fire Department and the Big Lake Fire Department would be extremely grateful if each fire department and EMS service received \$50,000.00 each for a total of \$150,000.00.

Big Lake Fire Department

\$27,040.02 for USAR Gear

\$22,959.98 for fire fighting equipment, building repairs, and maintenance.

Meadow Lakes Fire Department

\$27,040.02 for USAR Gear

\$22,959.98 for fire fighting equipment, building repairs, and maintenance.

Big Lake/Meadow Lakes EMS

\$32,190.50 for USAR Gear

\$17,809.50 for purchasing new advanced technology EMS equipment to better serve our communities.

Additional information::

2/25/2008

Both the Big Lake and Meadow Lakes BOS's have discussed and approved the request. The USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) is the new standard approved by the MSB DPS for Medics and Rescue Technicians to protect them from Blood Borne Pathogens, other dangerous liquids and chemicals, as well as some protection from hazards such as sharp objects, minor heat protection, and limited protection from in-climate weather. The gear is manufactured to NFPA and OSHA, and I'm sure some other regulatory standards. Our current rescue gear is not, and does not, provide the level of protection this gear does. The USAR gear was tested by responders for several months and approved by a committee within the MSB Emergency Service.

This summer while performing rescue operations on a multiple vehicle head-on accident, with multiple patients entrapped with critical injuries, my rescue team had to wear full fire fighter bunker gear to achieve the level of protection required by current standards. The gear caused severe heat stress to one responder who had to be transported to Mat-Su Regional Hospital. By the end of the over hour long extrication ordeal, all of us were dehydrated and on the verge of heat exhaustion.

The new USAR gear is a much more light weight gear designed for short and long term operations. This will help prevent the overheating and exhaustion during extended operations we ran into this summer. This will become even more critical should we have a major disaster that will require hours and hours of search and rescue operations.

The thermal imagers are primarily used by fire and rescue personnel for locating heat signatures which could be victims trapped and/or incapacitated during a search and rescue while conducting fire fighting operations. They are also used to find hot spots in the walls and floors to prevent the spread of fire causing further damage to a structure. We have even used them to follow the foot print trails of people fleeing car accidents that were injured, as well as locating deep hot spots during wild land fire fighting operations.

Please note that both the Big Lake and Meadow Lakes Fire Departments are investing hundreds of thousands of dollars of Fire Service Area Funds to purchase new fire trucks, repair and maintain facilities, purchase land for a future fire station, provide many different training programs, purchase fire fighting and communication equipment, a loan pay-off, as well as many other expenditures to maintain current operations and prepare for the continued growth and increase in need for our services.

If you have any additional questions, please call me at 355-2445, or Chief Gamble at 355-8181. Thank you.

| Thanks Wes Hamrick

----- Original Message -----

From: Rep. Mark Neuman

To: Wes Hamrick

Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 9:01 PM

Subject: RE: funding

We were just issued guidelines for the requests. Attached are items that must be completed in order to be considered in the CIP.

Apologies for the short notice -we just received this.

From: Wes Hamrick [mailto:nstar@mtaonline.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 8:53 PM
To: Rep. Mark Neuman
Subject: funding

Rep. Neuman

I am writing to ask you to please fund Big Lake Fire District 2 in the amount of \$30,000.00. We are in need of additional funds this year for USAR gear as well as misc. fire fighting equipment, building repairs and maintenance.

Thanks Mark for all you do.

See you soon.

**Wes Hamrick-Primary-BLFSA-BOD
892-7368**

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